

and the waste reason. The exemplary ~~waist~~ waste function generates a waste pharmacy event which is saved in the data store in association with the original event selected with the event browser. If the medical item being wasted has its witness required flag set to 'Y', then a witness will be required to enter login information to complete the ~~waist~~ waste function and generate of a ~~waist~~ waste event.

In the Abstract

Kindly insert the following replacement Abstract for the pending Abstract:

ABSTRACT

The A system for tracking and dispensing medical items (830) includes one or more computers and associated data stores including information concerning authorized users, patients, medical items that have been prescribed for patients, medical items available, storage locations for medical items and events associated with receiving, dispensing and providing medical items to patients. ~~Authorized users taking medications from storage locations are enabled to provide inputs through display terminals (76, 98, 102, 338, 880) to indicate the taking of medical items for patients. In addition, reading devices (348, 844) are enabled to be used for recording dispensing and restocking events within the system. Medical items are enabled to be dispensed from a plurality of storage cabinets (878). Storage cabinets are operative so that users may be guided to find a selected item for which information is input at an associated display terminal. Alternatively, users are enabled to gain access to the interior of the cabinet and indicate through appropriate inputs the types and quantities of items that are being taken. The cabinets provide for controlling access to medical items therein to only those users authorized to have access.~~ The system also provides for tracking medications from time of receipt by a pharmacy, through storage and compounding therein, to the storage locations from which the medical items are taken to be administered, to dispensing to medical personnel for administration and finally to patients. Further, returning, restocking and other activities affecting the disposition of medications are also tracked to assure that reliable information is recorded concerning the disposition of medical items.